

Research Concerning Manufacturers Marks on Plaster Casts of Classical Sculptures

Small Things often overlooked.

Abstract:

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Beginning in 2008 the four sections of the project are spatially and temporarily flexible.

Section A: Gathering of Facts

Finding, portraying and gathering data concerning materials, geometry, picture and text of a manufacturer mark.

The result is one file in a database per manufacturer mark.

Section B: Attribution

Identification of acquisition data. Evaluation of inventories, archives, buying and selling lists, catalogues, indications of acquisition in publications and letters. Evaluation of secondary literature.

The results are translations into probable periods of usage and timelines for manufacturing institutions.

Section C: Sidelineing Stories

Biographies of formatori, companies, families, commercial successes, presentations at exhibitions and trade fairs, lists of acquisitions, patents and copyright. Stories about the acquisition, reports of entrance into collections, pricing. Origin of casting. Problem of authenticity.

The results are stories about individual topics.

Section D: Contexts

Networks of the collections, tracks of manufacturers. Identity and authenticity, area of tension between replica and original.

The results are images of relations between manufacturers and customers. Proof of authenticity.

Presentation of results in excerpts of databases, locally oriented lists of collections, lectures, exhibitions, articles and input for catalogues and symposiums.